

Message Text

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PAGE 01 BAMA KO 03297 121637Z

ACTION AF-10

INFO OCT-01 EUR-12 ISO-00 SSO-00 NSCE-00 CPR-02 SY-05

USSS-00 PC-01 SS-15 AID-05 H-01 OC-06 CCO-00

PA-01 IO-13 /072 W

-----109175 121642Z /44

O P 121557Z JUL 78

FM AMEMBASSY BAMA KO

TO SECSTATE WASHDC IMMEDIATE 0032

INFO USICA WASHDC PRIORITY

AMEMBASSY DAKAR

AMEMBASSY OUAGADOUGOU

AMEMBASSY PARIS

AMEMBASSY ROME

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DEPARTMENT FOR AF/P AND PASS WHITE HOUSE MR. HARDEN; USICA FOR
AF; ROME ALSO FOR FODAG; PARIS ALSO FOR OECD; DAKAR FOR BANJUL
AS APPROPRIATE

E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: OVIP (CARTER, LILLIAN)

SUBJ: MISS LILLIAN'S VISIT TO THE SAHEL: MALI

REF: BAMA KO 3039

1. FOLLOWING IS DRAFT ARRIVAL STATEMENT FOR MISS LILLIAN AT THE
BAMA KO AIRPORT ON JULY 30:

2. MR. MINISTER, MADAM PRESIDENT, MR. CHIEF OF PROTOCOL:

I AM VERY PLEASED TO BE IN BAMA KO TODAY, AND I BRING YOU
THE GREETINGS AND BEST WISHES OF PRESIDENT CARTER AND THE AMERICAN
PEOPLE.

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I HAVE LONG BEEN LOOKING FORWARD TO THIS VISIT TO MALI, A
COUNTRY OF GLORIOUS AND FABLED HERITAGE. I AM HAPPY THAT I WILL
HAVE THE OPPORTUNITY TO VISIT TIMBUKTU AND MOPTI AS WELL AS
BAMA KO DURING MY STAY HERE.

WHILE I AM EXTREMELY INTERESTED IN MALI'S GREAT AND FASCINATING
HISTORICAL PAST, I AM EVEN MORE CONCERNED ABOUT THE FUTURE OF

YOUR COUNTRY. I HAVE COME TO THE SAHEL AT THE INVITATION OF THE CILSS MEMBER NATIONS, AS PRESIDENT CARTER'S PERSONAL REPRESENTATIVE, TO LEARN HOW THE PEOPLE OF THIS REGION ARE COMBATTING THE EFFECTS OF THE DROUGHT.

I AM VERY MUCH LOOKING FORWARD TO MEETING WITH YOUR PRESIDENT, COLONEL MOUSSA TRAORE, TO DISCUSS THE HOPES AND PLANS OF THE MALIAN PEOPLE. AS YOU KNOW, THE PEOPLE OF THE UNITED STATES ARE COMMITTED TO COOPERATING WITH YOUR COUNTRY TO FACE THE CHALLENGES OF DEVELOPMENT AND TO IMPROVE THE QUALITY OF LIFE FOR ALL MALIANS.

AS A NATIVE OF THE STATE OF GEORGIA, IN THE AMERICAN SOUTH, WHERE, LIKE YOU, WE GROW PEANUTS, COTTON, AND SORGHUM, I KNOW ABOUT THE HARD WORK AND STRUGGLES THAT GO INTO FOOD PRODUCTION. SO I AM HAPPY THAT I WILL HAVE THE OPPORTUNITY TO MEET WITH THE GOVERNORS OF THE FIFTH AND SIXTH REGIONS AND TO SEE SOME OF THE USAID PROJECTS UP-COUNTRY.

AND AS A FORMER PEACE CORPS VOLUNTEER, I AM ESPECIALLY EAGER TO SEE HOW MALIANS AND AMERICANS ARE WORKING TOGETHER IN THE RURAL AREAS.

IT IS ALSO A GREAT SOURCE OF PLEASURE TO ME THAT I WILL BE IN MALI TO PARTICIPATE IN PAN-AFRICAN WOMEN'S DAY, A TIME OF UNITY FOR WOMEN ALL ACROSS THIS GREAT CONTINENT AND THROUGHOUT LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

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THE WORLD. I HAVE ALWAYS BEEN INTERESTED IN THE ROLE OF WOMEN, AND I LOOK FORWARD TO MEETING WITH THE LEADERS OF THE NATIONAL UNION OF MALIAN WOMEN TO EXCHANGE IDEAS ON THIS QUESTION.

I HAVE ALREADY LEARNED MUCH ABOUT THE COUNTRIES OF THE SAHEL ON THIS TRIP, AND I HAVE BEEN MOST IMPRESSED BY THE IDEAS AND THE ENTHUSIASM OF THEIR PEOPLE. I FEEL CONFIDENT THAT MY VISIT TO MALI WILL SERVE TO INCREASE THE BONDS OF FRIENDSHIP AND COOPERATION BETWEEN OUR TWO NATIONS. END DRAFT TEXT.

BYRNE

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